UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

Music TORONTO

Amy Williams X JACK Quartet

Curated by Norbert Palej
Presented in partnership with Music Toronto

2025 University of Toronto New Music Festival
Reza Vali, Roger D. Moore Distinguished Visitor in Composition
Norbert Palej, *festival coordinator*

Friday, January 31, 2025 at 12:30pm | Walter Hall, 80 Queen's Park

Piano: Amy Williams
JACK Quarter
Violins: Christopher Otto, Austin Wulliman
Viola: John Pickford Richards
Cello: Jay Campbell

PROGRAM

Cineshape 2
Amy Williams

Study in Syntax No. 1: Beckett (Embers)
Amy Williams

Falling (2002)
Amy Williams

Give Way (2020)
Amy Williams

Stop/Yield (2015)
Amy Williams

We wish to acknowledge this land on which the University of Toronto operates. For thousands of years, it has been the traditional land of the Huron-Wendat, the Seneca, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. Today, this meeting place is still the home to many Indigenous people from across Turtle Island and we are grateful to have the opportunity to work on this land.

As part of the Faculty's commitment to improving Indigenous inclusion, we call upon all members of our community to start/continue their personal journeys towards understanding and acknowledging Indigenous peoples' histories, truths and cultures. Visit indigenous.utoronto.ca to learn more.

ARTIST BIOS

The “fresh, daring and incisive” (Fanfare) compositions of **Amy Williams** have been presented by leading international performers, including the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra, JACK Quartet, Bent Frequency, Ensemble Musikfabrik, Wet Ink, International Contemporary Ensemble, Junction Trio, Orpheus, pianist Ursula Oppens, soprano Tony Arnold and bassist Robert Black. Her pieces appear on the Albany, Parma, Blue Griffin, Centaur and New Focus labels. As a member of the Bugallo-Williams Piano Duo, she has performed throughout Europe and the Americas and recorded six critically-acclaimed CDs for Wergo (works of Nancarrow, Stravinsky, Varèse/Feldman and Kurtág), as well as appearing on the Neos and Albany labels. Ms. Williams has been awarded a Howard Foundation Fellowship, Fromm Music Foundation Commission, Guggenheim Fellowship, Koussevitsky Music Foundation Commission, two awards from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, a Fulbright Scholars Fellowship to Ireland, a MacDowell fellowship and the 2024 Henri Lazarof International Commission Prize. Ms. Williams holds a Ph.D. in composition from the University at Buffalo, where she also received her Master's degree in piano performance. She has taught at Bennington College and Northwestern University and is currently Professor of Composition at the University of Pittsburgh. She is Artistic Director of the New Music On The Point Festival in Vermont.

The **JACK Quartet** excels in interpreting and conveying the intricate compositional intent of 20th and 21st–century music. Their performances showcase an impressive palette of colours, textures, and rhythmic complexities. With virtuosic skill, they breathe life into contemporary works, making them accessible and engaging. Experiencing their performances of pieces by modern masters is like discovering a new language and comprehending it effortlessly.